

Synod, to certify the numbers of congregations and members enjoying pastoral ministrations; and in a few instances, the report may embrace congregations as yet unprovided with Ministers: but there will still be multitudes, scattered throughout the Province, as yet unvisited and unknown, and therefore, not included in the Synodical return.—The Ecclesiastical census, made by public authority will embrace these—and we may at length know, with some degree of certainty, the numbers of those who profess adherence to our communion, and for whose spiritual interests we ought specially to be concerned.

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**PRESBYTERIAN BOOKS.**—Complaint has often been made, in various parts of the Province, of the scarcity of the devotional and religious publications, which are in common use, and of standard value, among our body. Even in the principal Towns, a purchaser cannot always find our metrical version of the psalms and paraphrases, the shorter Catechism, and confession of Faith:—and many religious publications, well known in the parent Church, and admirably adapted to promote faith and piety, have not yet found their way at all to this country. It is surely worth the attention of the Church Courts to endeavour to provide a remedy. It is impossible to preserve our ancient and approved practice of general singing in the congregation, unless the people are furnished with psalm books, of a convenient and portable size. If a good supply of small pocket Bibles, were to be had, with the psalms and paraphrases, bound up with them, it might contribute to improve our congregational singing, and also preserve the good old practice, so conducive to scriptural knowledge, of turning up texts, and references made by the minister. We deem it of high importance, for these objects, that religious Book depositories be established in convenient places, through-

out the Province, under the sanction and patronage of the Church. Might it not be well for the Synod to appoint some Bookseller in Montreal or Toronto, as Bookseller to the Church, who shall engage to supply the depositories with such books as may be deemed necessary—and to recommend Sessions and congregations to purchase from these depositories. The advantages of such a general scheme are obvious. A respectable Bookseller might be induced, by the promise of general patronage, to embark with a sufficient capital in this branch of trade; he could afford to establish depositories throughout the Province, at his own risk, and furnish books to the public at a cheaper rate; the current periodical Literature of the parent Church, might thus also be disseminated among us, & we would thereby be brought into more affectionate alliance with it. Unless some such plan as this be adopted, we greatly fear, our books will be charged at much higher prices, and the supply in the principal Towns will continue to be, as hitherto, precarious and inadequate, while, in the remote districts—the cause of complaint will remain unmitigated.

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**A SYNOD LIBRARY.**—The time, it is to be hoped, is not far distant, when there will be a Theological College in connection with the Synod of Canada. A Library will be an essential appendage to such an Institution. As it can only be procured gradually, no time can be more suitable than the present for beginning its collection.

For this purpose, ministers should use their influence with the wealthier members of their congregations, and with their friends at home. On application of the Synod, it is believed, the General Assembly, and the different Colonial Societies, would extend their prompt, and effective assistance. Were this matter fairly brought before the parent Church, many ministers might be induced to make donations of Books, now no longer useful to them,